Primary schools brought under operation black-board scheme

*234. SHRl SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary schools State-wise and the number of schools which have been brought under Operation Black-Board Scheme and Working a^ cordingly, in each State and Union Territory during the last three years and during the current year so far and also what is the expenditure incurred during each year on this account; and

(b) the estimated time-schedule Isy when Operation Black-Board would have covered aU the primary schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRl P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) The Scheme of Operation Blackboard was formulated in 1987-88. During 1987-88 and 1988-89 a total of 2,53,279 primary schools have been covered and Central assistance ot Rs_ 246.34 crores has been released to States and Union Territories. Statewise details of number of schools covered and amount released are given in the Annexure (See Appendix CLl, Annexure No. 110)

During 1989-90 so fa_r funds have not been released for new projects. The full amount sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh in 1989-90 could not be released owing to budgetary constraints. Hence the following amounts have been released in the current financial year to these States in fulfilment to last year's sanction.

	(Rs. in Iakhs)
Andhra Pradesh . .	408.77
Karnataka . . .	146.08
Orissa	296.86
Uttar Pradesh . . .	381.75

ln addition a_n amount of Rs. 32.39 lakhs sanctioned to Delhi ln 1987-88, which lapsed due to non-drawal, was re-sanctioned. Thus a total amount of R^s-1266.85 lakhs has been spent in the current financial year.

(b) Depending on the allocation ot - esources, it is expected that all primary schools would be covered in the next one or two years.

Growing demand for use of helicopters by Pawan Hans Limited

*235. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for use of helicopters by Pawan Hans Limited is growing and the corporation is not able to meet its demand; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRl SHIVRAJ PAUL): (a) and (b) The Pawan Hans Ltd. has been able to meet the growing volume of demand for helicopter service from the Oil Sector. The company has also plans to meet additional demand, if any, from this sector by redeploying its own fleet or resorting to helicopter leasing to the extent considered necessary.

Conversion of Manmad-Adilabad rail link from metre-gauge to broad-gauge

*236. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased te-state:

(a) whether there is any proposal fot the conversion of Manmad-Adilabad rail link from metre-gauge to broad-gauge by raising debentures from public;

(b) whether any metre-gauge section in Karnataka is also under consideration for conversion to broad-gauge by raising debentures; and

(c) if so, what are the detailg there' of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRl MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of the curators of world, museums ! to Indian museums

*237. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether some senior curatorsof some of the well knowr museums at the world visited Indian museums re-cently;

(b) If so, what is their impression on conditions of Indian museums, method of their upkeep, manner of display of art objects etc; and

(c) what is the reaction of Govern ment on their observations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The impression as reported appears to indicate that the conditions are pitiable, museums are in shambles, lack air-conditioning arid display is unsatisfactory.

(c) The observations expressed about museums in India are highly exaggerated.

India's initiative for long term settlement of Afghanistan problem

*238. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA; *Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any initiative with other countries for a long term settlement of the Afghanistan problem; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Government have been Jn touch with all concerned including all sections of Afghan opinion^ Government have consistently called for strict imple* mentation of the Geneva accords by aU signatories as an essential step iri seeking a political solution based on existing re* alities and ensuring the sovereignty, integrity, non-aligned status and independence of Afghanistan.

Common core for development of a National Curricular framework for school stage

*239. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE;

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 234 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th May, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training had developed a National Curricular Fram* work for School stage which contains a common core having the content essential to nurture national identity;

(b) if so, what are these components of the common core and also the curriculum guidelines; and

(c) whether the States have been urged to use NCERTs curriculum guidelines, syllabi and text-books for different stages of school education; if so, what has been the response till date thereto state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Common core far development of a National Curricular framework for school stage

The National policy on Education (NPE) 1986 envisages a National system of education based on a national Curricular framework which contains a common core alongwith other components that are flexible.